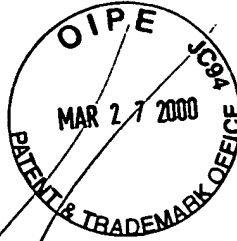


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In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-44 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue prosecution of these claims in a later-filed continuation or divisional application.

Remarks

Claims 1-53 were pending in the subject application. By this amendment, applicants have canceled Claims 1-44 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue prosecution of these claims in a later-filed continuation or divisional application. Accordingly, Claims 45-53 are presently pending and under examination.

Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner first required applicants to elect claims for prosecution in the current application. In response to the restriction requirement, applicants hereby elect to prosecute Group VII, Claims 45-53, without traverse.

Sequence Listing

The Examiner also required applicants to comply with the Sequence Rules. The computer readable form required for this application is identical to that filed in Application No. 08/531,832, filed September 20, 1995. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.821(e), applicants hereby request that the last-filed computer readable form be transferred from Application No. 08/531,832 to the subject application. It is understood that the U.S. Patent Office will make the necessary changes in the application number and filing date for the computer readable form that will be used for the subject application. A paper copy of the Sequence Listing from Application No. 08/531,832 is attached as Appendix A for incorporation into the specification.

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No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment. If any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 01-1785.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 24, 2000  
New York, New York

By Craig J. Arnold  
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